Vol VIII. Numb. 16

THE OBSERVATOR.

Remarks on the Addreſs of the Lords and Commons to her Majeſty, for the Terms to be demanded in Caſe of a Peace, for preſerving the Repoſe and Quiet of Europe, *and preventing the ambitious Deſigns of* France. *Farther Conſiderations on the Trade to* Africa, *and whether beſt to be laid open, or manag'd by an excluſive Company.*

From Wednesday, March 2. to Saturday, March 5. 1709.

Country-m. I Have great News for you, Maſter.

Obſ. What's that, *Roger?*

Country-m. 'Tis Parliament-News, Maſter, an Addreſs from both Houſes to her Majeſty, 'That 'ſhe would be pleas'd to take Care, at the Concluſion of the War, to continue and eſtabliſh a good 'and firm Friendſhip among all the Allies, that the '*French* King may be oblig'd to own her Majeſty's 'Title and the Proteſtant Succeſſion, as eſtabliſh'd 'by the Laws of *Great Britain*, and that her Allies 'be Guarrantees of the ſame; that the Pretender 'be remov'd out of the *French* Dominions, and not 'ſuffer'd to return to diſturb her Majeſty and her 'Heirs, or Succeſſors in the Proteſtant Line; and 'that for the Security of her Majeſty's Dominions, 'the Preſervation of Trade, and the general Benefit 'of the Allies, Care may be taken, that the Fortifi-'cations and Harbour of *Dunkirk* may be deſtroy'd.

Obſ. I am glad to hear it, *Roger*. That's the moſt effectual Way can be thought on to prevent the Deſigns of the *French* Court, to wheedle any of the Allies into a ſeparate and diſhonourable Peace; and is an Effort becoming the Government of *Great Britain*, which is able, at any Time, to caſt the Ballance of *Europe* as they pleaſe, when the Sovereign and Parliament act in Concert. We have all along been the Soul which animated the Confederacy; and it muſt needs be pleaſing to all honeſt Men, to find, that our Spirits and Strength are not ſo much exhauſted by a tedious and expenſive War, but that we have ſtill a Reſerve capable to make our Enemies tremble.

Country-m. I muſt needs ſay, Maſter, that this noble Addreſs rais'd the Cockles of your Countryman's Heart; for to be ſure, ſuch an auguſt Aſſembly as our Lords and Commons, would not ſpeak ſo big, were they not capable to ſecond their Words by Deeds. The Reſolves of our Parliament are not like the *Bruta Fulmina* of the *Vatican*, which come into the World, and go out of it again, with a Bounce, and leave nothing elſe but an ungrateful Scent behind.

Obſ. You ſay very well, *Roger*; the Parliament have in this Matter acted like brave and noble Patriots. They are ſenſible, that we have been at a great Expence of Blood and Treaſure in proſecuting this long War, for ſecuring the Liberties of *Europe*; and 'tis but reaſonable they ſhould take Care, that the Harveſt anſwer the Seed-Time; which it can never do, but in the Terms of their Addreſs; for if a firm Friendſhip be not eſtabliſh'd among the Allies, her Majeſty's Title and the Proteſtant Succeſſion ſecur'd, the Peace of her Majeſty's Dominions, the Preſervation of Trade, and the general Benefit of the Allies provided for, all the great Expence of Blood and Treaſure that we and they have been at, is to no Purpoſe.

Country-m. Yet, Maſter, I find ſome People are uneaſy, that there's no Mention made of the Reſtoration of the whole *Spaniſh* Monarchy to the Houſe of *Auſtria*; that no Peace ſhould be made, without the Conſent of the Allies; and that no Proviſion is made againſt the Pretender's ſuppos'd Siſter, and the Iſſue of both, if they have any.

Obſ. If thoſe People give themſelves Leave to conſider the Addreſs, *Roger*, they will find all thoſe Things provided for, tho' there's no Need of always repeating Particulars. The Queen and Parliament have declar'd again and again, that they are for no Peace, except the whole *Spaniſh* Monarchy be reſtor'd to the Houſe of *Auſtria*. Without that, the Ballance of *Europe* can't be ſecur'd, nor a good and firm Friendſhip among the Allies eſtabliſh'd and continu'd, except the Houſe of *Auſtria* agree to leſs. Nor will the Allies conſent to be Guarrantees for her Majeſty's Title and the Proteſtant Succeſſion, as eſtabliſh'd by our Laws, unleſs they be ſatisfy'd in the Terms of the Peace. Then for the Pretender and his Siſter, with their Iſſue, if they have any, not only they, but all other Popiſh Pretenders of the Dutcheſs of *Orleance*'s Line, muſt neceſſarily be excluded, if the Allies become Guarrantees of the Proteſtant Succeſſion, as eſtabliſh'd by our Laws in the Houſe of *Hannover*. Nor are we to ſuppoſe, that the Allies, if they like the Terms of Peace, will refuſe being Guarrantees; for the Houſe of *Auſtria* know well enough, that if a Popiſh Prince or Princeſs, bred in the Maxims of *France*, aſcend our Throne, they can expect no Aſſiſtance from *Great Britain*, to do themſelves Juſtice, or to keep the Ballance of *Europe*, by humbling *France*. The *Dutch*, who are our next chief Allie, know very well, that if the Houſe of *Bourbon* keep Poſſeſſion of *Spain* and the *Weſt Indies*, they may, when they pleaſe, renew their Pretenſions to the Sovereignty of the united Provinces, which they will alledge to be Rebels from the Crown of *Spain*, and treat them accordingly, if they have Power to ſecond their Inclinations. The *Portugueſe* muſt look for the ſame Fate, and the Duke of *Savoy* muſt expect the like Treatment; for his Dominions lie too convenient for the Houſe of *Bourbon* to enlarge their Footing in *Italy*; and their former Treatment of himſelf and his Anceſtors, is enough to convince him, that he is to expect no fairer Quarter from them, than others of the Allies; ſo that I think it plain, *Roger*, that our Confederates are oblig'd, both in Intereſt and Gratitude, to agree to our Demands of their being Guarrantees for her Majeſty's Title and the Proteſtant Succeſſion, in Caſe of a Peace, and juſtifies our inſiſting upon it.

Country-m. Your Arguments to me appear very ſtrong, Maſter. Beſides, I am of Opinion, that if we manage our own native Strength, eſpecially our naval Force, as we ought to do, we ſhall be able to make good our Pretenſions, tho' our Allies ſhould not ſtand by us.

Obſ. There's no Doubt of that, *Roger*; but it will be much more eaſily and effectually done, if we keep a good Correſpondence with our Allies Abroad, and take Care to ſecure our Peace at Home. In order to which, 'tis my humble Opinion, that our Fleet ſhould be kept in ſuch a Condition, as to maintain the Sovereignty of the Seas, to prevent the *French* from attacking *Barcelona*, and to enable King *Charles* at leaſt to ſtand on the Defenſive, to keep the *French* from getting their Fleet together, either to invade him, or to make a new Attempt upon *Scotland*: And as that Country has always been a back Door to let in Good or Evil upon us,

think 'tis but politick, as well as juſt, that they ſhould have no real Cauſe to pretend, that the Articles of the Union are not kept with them; that the well-affected Subjects there, ſhould not be hector'd and diſcourag'd by inſolent *Jacobites*, Nonjurants, and Papiſts, in Contempt of the Laws; that honeſt Men, and not *Jacobites*, ſhould be intruſted in the ſeveral Branches of their Adminiſtration; that the Eſtabliſhment of the regular Troops ſhould be kept up there, in a better Proportion than about 1500 for 5000. that their Garriſons and Caſtles ſhould be better provided, than with one or two Barrels of Powder a-piece, and a few ſorry Guns with uſeleſs Carriages; that they be provided with Ammunition, *&c.* in Time, and not put to the diſmal Neceſſity of ſending for it, when the Enemy is upon their Coaſt, and if they land, may intercept it; that their Troops may be of ſuch a Number, and ſo well provided, as not to think of retiring before the *French* and the Rebels, in Caſe of a ſecond Attempt; that they may not be at a Loſs where to ſend either for Money or Troops, in Caſe of a ſecond Invaſion; and that they may be ſo well furniſh'd with every Thing neceſſary for their Defence, as to have no Reaſon to complain of being expos'd and left deſtitute, at the Mercy of Invaders, or that any of thoſe entruſted with the Protection of that Country, ſhall find themſelves under a Neceſſity of having Recourſe to mean Shifts and Evaſions, to palliate the Neglects of themſelves or others.

Country-m. Enough of this at preſent, Maſter. I am ſure 'tis too much for ſome Sort of People. Pray let's have ſome farther Diſcourſe about the *African*-Trade.

Obſ. With all my Heart, *Roger*. You and I have no Intereſt in this Matter, but that of the Nation; and therefore propoſe, that the Allegations both of the Company and of the 10 *per Cent.* Traders ſhould be fairly examin'd, and the State of that Trade, as deliver'd in by both, duly conſider'd, in order to do the Kingdom Juſtice: And to that End, *Roger*, as the Company pretend that Trade cannot be carry'd on without Forts on the Coaſt, it ſeems neceſſary to be enquir'd, 1. Whether the 10 *per Cent.* Mens Allegations be true, that 28 Parts of 30 of that Coaſt has no Forts, and that they themſelves, though they pay for it, have little Benefit by their Protection, and that the ſaid Forts cannot hinder the Natives to trade with Ships at Sea? 2. Whether if Forts be neceſſary, they mayn't be as well taken Care of and maintain'd by a Committee of experienc'd Merchants, choſen out of the Queen's Dominions, as by the Directors of any Company? and whether they might not be better defended that way, than hitherto they have been? 3. Whether Experience may not convince us, that this Trade, as well as others that can be nam'd, has not been, and may be more enlarg'd, when open, than when manag'd by excluſive Companies? 4. Whether all the Traders to *Africa* be not more able, both on the Account of Experience and Stock, to manage that Trade, than an excluſive Company? 5. Whether thoſe 10 *per Cent.* Traders have not more Intereſt in the Trade to *New Spain*, and by Conſequence be more concern'd to provide Negroes for *America*, where many of them have Plantations, than others, who perhaps have none there? 6. Which of the two have carry'd on moſt of that Trade ſince it was laid open by the Act of 1697? 7. Whether the *Hamburgh*, *Ruſſia*, and Fiſhing Trades, were not in a great Meaſure loſt by excluſive Companies, and have flouriſh'd more ſince they were laid open? 8. Whether it will not appear by the Company's Accounts, that during the ten Years the Trade has been open, they have not ſav'd near 50 *per Cent.* upon the whole? and if this be true, whether the Loſſes they complain of, muſt not proceed from other Cauſes, than the laying of that Trade open? and what thoſe Cauſes are? 9. Whether, ſince the Act of 1697, that Trade has not been carry'd on higher, and more Negroes ſent to the Plantations, than ever was ſent to *America* by any excluſive Company in twenty Years before? and if ſo, what we are to think of the Complaint, that the *African*-Trade is loſt to *Great Britain*? and whether it be not an unjuſt Arraignment of our Legiſlature, that laid it open? 10. Whether the Allegation of thoſe who are for an open Trade, be not true, that by comparing the Trade which is carry'd on in ſuch Places without Forts, merely upon the Faith of the Natives, with that which is carry'd on where there are Forts, it does not appear, that 'tis much eaſier and ſafer trading at *Angola*, *Old* or *New Calabar*, or between *Gambia*-River, and the *Gold*-Coaſt, than upon the Coaſt where there are Forts? and particularly, whether there be not a greater freer, more ſafe Trade, and better Diſpatch at *Quedah*, ten Miles up the Country, and at the King's Town, and in his Houſe, for all *Europeans*, even when at War with one another, than upon the *Gold*-Coaſt, where there are Forts? 12. Whether, when the Natives ſeiz'd an *European*-Fort, and kept it eighteen Months, there was not a greater Trade carry'd on there, than before or ſince? And 13. Whether, upon the whole, ſuppoſing all the Forts to be demoliſh'd, or in the Hands of the Natives, the Trade would not be greater than at preſent, eſpecially to the Subjects of *Great Britain*, who have ſuch Variety of Commodities to import, which the Natives want and covet.

☞ The Scourge of Venus and Mercury, repreſented in a Treatiſe of the Venereal Diſeaſe; together with an Appendix in anſwer to Mr. John Marten's Reflexions thereupon. By J. Sinteller, Practitioner in Phyſick. Price of the Appendix alone bound 6d. together 3s. 6d. Sold by R. Gosling at the Mitre in Fleet-ſtreet, W. Cotſter at the Green Dragon in St. Paul's Church-yard, J. Phillips at the Black Boy in Cornhill, H. Rhodes at the Crown near Cecil-ſtreet in the Strand, B. Picard at the 3 Bibles in the Minories, J. Harding in St. Martins-lane near Long-acre, J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall, and by the Author at his Dwelling-houſe (late the Duke of Leeds's) in high Holborn, over againſt little Turn-ſtile.

☞ A Sermon preach'd before the Queen at St. James's, on Thurſday the 17th of February, being appointed for a Day of general Thankſgiving to Almighty God, for our many and great Succeſſes throughout this laſt Year. By Tho. Manningham, D. D. Dean of Windſor, and Chaplain in Ordinary to her Majeſty. Publiſh'd by her Majeſty's Special Command. Sold by B. Bragge in Pater-Noſter-Row. Price in 4to 6d. and 8vo 1d.

☞ The Royal Decoction, or a never failing Diet-Drink againſt the Venereal Diſeaſe. Its wonderful Efficacy is ſuch, that any Patient may be thereby moſt effectually cur'd, be it of never ſo long ſtanding, and aggravated by ineffectual Salivations, and the Body be cover'd with Scabs, Ulcers, Blotches, and the Legs with Holes, all the Limbs with moſt excruciating Pains, the Palate eaten away, and the Noſe fallen in, &c. This Anti-venereal Decoction eaſes all the Venereal Pains in 8 Days, and in 30 Days perfects the whole Cure, and that without the Uſe of Mercury. The Gentleman, who alone prepares this Decoction, offers to enter into an Engagement, from 100 to 500 Pounds, for the Performance of what he promiſes, if any Patient, tho' diſcourag'd by other Practitioners, will come to his Houſe, he will furniſh them with Neceſſaries, as well as Phyſick, for 8 Days, and if by that time he is not ſatisfy'd that he may be perfectly cur'd, he is free to leave it, without paying any thing for Lodging, Diet, or Phyſick. The Taſte of this Decoction is ſo pleaſant, and the Operation ſo kind to Nature, that lik-belly'd Women and Sucklings are daily cur'd with it at all the Seaſons of the Year. The Doctor or his Wife are to be ſpoken with at all ſeaſonable Hours, at the Hand and Urinal, over againſt little Turn-ſtile in high Holborn, (late the D. of Leeds's.) N.B. The Bill at large is to be ſeen hanging up in the Royal Exchange, London.

☞ Dr. Anderſon's, or the famous Scots Pills, are, by her Majeſty's Authority, faithfully prepar'd only by Mrs. Engliſh from Edinburgh, now living at the Unicorn, over againſt the Watch-houſe, near the May-pole in the Strand, London. And to prevent Counterfeits from Scotland, as well as in and about Town, you are deſir'd to take Notice, that the true Pills have their Boxes ſeal'd on the Top in black Wax, with a Lyon rampant, and three Mullets argent, Dr. Anderſon's Head betwixt I I with his Name round it, and Iſabella Engliſh underneath the Shield, in a Scroll. They are of excellent Uſe, to be taken with Epſom, Tunbridge, or other Medicinal Waters. Beware of Counterfeits, eſpecially of an ignorant Pretender, one Muſſen, who keeps a China-Shop, within three Doors of me, and ſells a notorious Counterfeit, inſtead of the true Pills. I Engliſh.

LONDON, Printed for the Uſe of the Widow of the late Author, JOHN TUTCHIN.